

## Message Text

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45

ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8185

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7748

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, IS

SUBJECT: TALK WITH ISRAELI OFFICIAL

REF: TEHRAN 4544

1. ISRAELI UNOFFICIAL AMBASSADOR IN TEHRAN, URI LUBRANI,  
CALLED ON ME SEPTEMBER 15 FOR GENERAL CONVERSATION.

2. INTER ALIA, HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD SUCCEEDED IN  
PROCURING OIL FROM IRAN FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THIS YEAR  
AT 93 PERCENT OF POSTED PRICE. THIS COMPARES MOST  
FAVORABLY WITH THE PRICE FOR THE FIRST HALF (PARA  
TWO OF REFTEL). THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IS REGULARLY  
LIFTING CRUDE OIL AT A RATE WHICH WILL ACCUMULATE TO  
TWO MILLION TONS FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD FROM JULY TO  
DECEMBER 31, 1974. IN ADDITION TO HAVING SECURED  
A PRICE BREAK, LUBRANI WAS SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING THE  
IRANIANS TO GIVE ISRAEL AN EXTRA 30 DAYS' GRACE ON PAY-  
MENTS, IN OTHER WORDS A TOTAL OF 90 DAYS. LUBRANI COMMENTED  
THAT HE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL ARE MUCH CONCERNED OVER  
THE OIL WELLS IN THE SINAI SINCE SOMEWHAT MORE THAN  
HALF OF THEIR CURRENT OIL IMPORTS DERIVE FROM THERE.  
HE REGARDS THIS AS ONE OF PRIME MINISTER RABIN'S  
TOUGHEST JOBS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT.

3. LUBRANI STATED THAT THE ASIAN GAMES HAVE BEEN A CON-  
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SISTENT HEADACHE. NOT ONLY HAS HE HAD PROBLEMS OVER THE

UNWILLINGNESS OF CERTAIN TEAMS TO PLAY AGAINST ISRAEL, BUT ALSO HE HAS BEEN DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE TERRORIST ATTACKS OR UNTOWARD INCIDENTS. HE CONCEDES THAT THE IRANIANS HAVE BEEN "SUPERB" ABOUT SECURITY BUT MOST OF THE ISRAELI ATHLETES WHO HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY CONFINED TO THE ASIAN GAMES VILLAGE THROUGHOUT THE PAST TWO WEEKS ARE BEGINNING TO CLIMB THE WALLS (FIGURATIVELY). THE CRUCIAL POINT WILL BE REACHED EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 15 WHEN IRAN AND ISRAEL SQUARE OFF AT FOOTBALL BEFORE AN AUDIENCE OF 100,000. LUBRANI IS CONCERNED ABOUT INCIDENTS AT THE MATCH AS WELL AS POSSIBLE ATTACKS AGAINST THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OR JEWISH MERCHANTS IN SOUTH TEHRAN. HE RECALLS THAT THERE WERE SUCH ATTACKS ON JEWS UNDER SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES IN 1968.

4. HAVING BEEN MUCH IN ISRAEL THIS SUMMER DUE TO THE ILLNESS OF HIS WIFE AND HIMSELF, LUBRANI HAS THE IMPRESSION THAT CONDITIONS ARE MORE STABLE THAN HE WOULD HAVE PREDICTED (CF. PARA THREE OF REFTTEL). HE FEELS THAT THE RABIN ADMINISTRATION HAS A BETTER CHANCE OF HANGING ON THAN HE HAD ORIGINALLY THOUGHT, POINTING TO THE SKILLFUL WAY IN WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER HAS PILOTED HIS WAY THROUGH SOME VERY SENSITIVE DOMESTIC NEGOTIATIONS. HE CONCEDES THAT UNLESS THE PRIME MINISTER CAN ACQUIRE A LARGER MAJORITY IN THE KNESSET THROUGH ACQUIRING THE ADHERENCE OF THE RELIGIOUS PARTY, RABIN WILL HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME SURVIVING THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT AND SYRIA, NOT TO MENTION JORDAN AND THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION WHICH TOUCH SO INTIMATELY ON THE EXPOSED NERVE OF THE ISRAELI ATTITUDE TOWARD JERUSALEM. NEVERTHELESS, LUBRANI FEELS THAT HIS COUNTRY HAS BEEN THROUGH A MOST DIFFICULT PERIOD AND IS ON A MORE STABLE FOOTING RIGHT NOW.  
HELMS

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## Message Attributes

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